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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 754

By Phelan

A RESOLUTION to commend Robert J. "Bob" Eddlemon for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as Alderman and Mayor of Rutherford.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert J. "Bob" Eddlemon is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, on September 5, 1925, Robert Jones Eddlemon was born to loving parents, George Lee and Virginia Catherine Eddlemon; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, he learned the value of hard work from the exemplary lives of his parents; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eddlemon attended schools in Bells Chapel, Yorkville, Dyer and Rutherford; and upon completing the eighth grade, Bob Eddlemon ended his scholastic career to pursue opportunities in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, he received his first job opportunity in 1937 at Rickman's Pool Hall, where he racked pool balls six days a week for a salary of \$5.50 per week with ten cents deducted for

Social Security; after closing the pool hall at midnight each Saturday night, Mr. Eddlemon would walk five miles to return home; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eddlemon later worked for a general mercantile store, the O'Daniel/Cummings Company, and the Ford Tractor Company; and

WHEREAS, from 1951 to 1953, Bob Eddlemon owned and operated the Home Grocery Store and, in 1953, he accepted a position selling Ford automobiles and remained with the company until 1976; and

WHEREAS, he then pursued his own used car business, B&J Motor Company from 1976 until 1990; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of the Rutherford community, Bob Eddlemon is admired for his impeccable character and integrity as a businessman; and

WHEREAS, he was first elected as Alderman of Rutherford in May of 1969 and diligently served for 17 years in that distinguished capacity; and

WHEREAS, he was first appointed Mayor of Rutherford in 1990 and served until 2000; and

WHEREAS, in order to better serve the people of Rutherford, Mr. Eddlemon closed B&J Motors to fully devote his time to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eddlemon's determination to contribute to his community served as motivation to perform his duties in a manner beyond reproach; and

WHEREAS, Bob Eddlemon served as Mayor of Rutherford for 10 years, in which position he served with acumen and alacrity earning the respect of his community; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenures as an Alderman and Mayor of Rutherford, Mr. Eddlemon has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, his remarkable success as a civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Bob Eddlemon is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Bob Eddlemon is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Dorothy, and their three children, Vicki Lynn King, Rhonda Gay Butterworth, and Robert Jeffrey Eddlemon; and

WHEREAS, he is the loving and devoted grandfather of eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eddlemon is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Mr. Robert J. "Bob" Eddlemon for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as Alderman and Mayor of Rutherford and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.